

REMARKS

In this paper, claims 1, 11-15, 34 and 37 are currently amended, claim 10 has been canceled, and claims 39-50 have been added. After entry of the above amendment, claims 1-4, 6-9, 11-15 and 34-50 are pending, and claims 5, 10 and 16-33 have been canceled.

All of the added claims read on elected Group I.

Claim 1, 3 and 34 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112 as being indefinite. Claims 1, 3 and 34 have been amended to provide proper antecedent basis for the terms used.

Claims 1-4, 6-15 and 34-38 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hickman, et al (US 2005/0233861) in view of Shea (US 6,171,218). This basis for rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 recites, inter alia, a rank processing unit that receives cycling performance data from a registered bicycle user and calculates ranking information of the registered bicycle user from cycling performance data from the registered bicycle user and from cycling performance data from at least one additional registered bicycle user. The office action refers to column 27, lines 45+ of Hickman, et al as teaching the calculation of ranking information in a bicycle user information apparatus. The cited text states that a user can upload and download information and that the mobile exercise devices permit competition. The example provided is virtual spaceships engaging in a dogfight. Hickman, et al is silent about any calculation of ranking information, and merely displaying icons representing individual users does not involve the calculation of anything, let alone ranking information. There is no evidence that any part of the Hickman, et al information apparatus has knowledge of a calculated rank. The office action refers to “amateur” and “professional” as an example of a ranking, but such terms are not calculated ranks.

Claim 13 has been amended to clarify that the information delivery unit communicates information corresponding to the at least one additional registered bicycle user to the registered bicycle user only when the current location of the at least one additional registered bicycle user is

within a predetermined geographical range of a current location of the registered bicycle user. There is no such filtering of information in Hickman, et al or Shea.

With respect to claim 15, the cited prior art neither discloses nor suggests the communication of geographical information of the at least one additional bicycle user to the registered bicycle user. While Hickman, et al may discuss the communication of geographical information to a central site, there is no teaching of providing geographical information of one registered bicycle user to a different registered bicycle user.

With respect to claims 35 and 36, the cited prior art neither discloses nor suggests the communication of ranking data calculated from cycling distance or cycling time of a registered bicycle user relative to at least one additional registered bicycle user.

With respect to claim 37, the cited prior art neither discloses nor suggests the communication of ranking data of a registered bicycle user relative to at least one additional registered bicycle user through a cycle computer. Such is not shown in Fig. 13 of Hickman, et al as alleged.

Claim 34 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hickman, et al in view of Shea and Rice (US 2004/0210353). This basis for rejection is respectfully traversed.

Initially, it is submitted that Rice is nonanalogous art. Rice is directed to the insurance field, not the bicycling field. Furthermore, Rice is directed to the problem of underwriting insurance policies based on risk, not the sharing of information among users. Finally, there is no suggestion to provide sensitive insurance data from one policyholder to another. The data is intended for internal use only. Nobody would tolerate such an invasion of privacy, so Rice provides no motivation to provide data from one user to another.

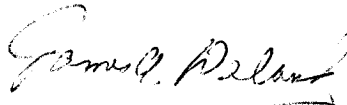
New claims 39-41 distinguish over the cited prior art because none of the references alone or in combination discloses or suggests automatically providing ranking data of one user relative to another.

New claim 42 distinguishes over the cited prior art because none of the references alone or in combination discloses or suggests storing item-by-item ranking information in a ranking database.

New claims 43-50 distinguish over the prior art because none of the references alone or in combination discloses or suggests a method comprising the steps of communicating through the Internet, from a registered bicycle user from a cycle computer supported by a bicycle that is structured to physically travel along actual outdoor terrain, access information directed to an administration control unit; and receiving through the Internet, by the registered bicycle user from the cycle computer, information from least one additional registered bicycle user in a self-serve manner. The information received is not communicated automatically as recited in claim 44, and the information recited in claims 45-50 is not communicated.

Accordingly, it is believed that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103 and §112 have been overcome by the foregoing amendment and remarks, and it is submitted that the claims are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of this application as amended is respectfully requested. Allowance of all claims is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "James A. Deland", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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